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AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND PORTUGAL RESPECTING  
THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN BRITISH AND PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS ON  
THE RUO AND SHIRE RIVERS<sup>1</sup>

*Lisbon, November 6/30, 1911*

1

*His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to the Portuguese Minister for  
Foreign Affairs*

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S LEGATION,  
*LISBON, November 6, 1911*

Your Excellency,

In continuation of the correspondence which took place in June and September last between his Excellency Senhor Azevedo and my predecessor, Sir Francis Villiers, respecting a settlement of the boundary between the respective possessions of the two governments on the Ruo and Shire Rivers, I have the honour to propose to your Excellency that this question should be settled by an agreement in the following terms:—

His Britannic Majesty's Government and the Government of the Portuguese Republic having resolved to demarcate their territories in East Africa along the Rivers Ruo and Shire between the points on those rivers mentioned in the treaty of the 11th June, 1891, it has been decided by common accord between the two governments to accept the line of the thalweg of those rivers as the frontier-line, and the islands situated between the left bank of the said rivers and the lines of their thalweg to belong to Portugal, and those situated between those lines of thalweg and the right bank of the said rivers Ruo and Shire to belong to Great Britain, these lines being determined according to the condition of the two rivers in 1908. In this manner the islands belonging to Portugal will be:

Sankalani, and the adjacent islands, Masekodoso, which is downstream from the village of Mlolo, those at the mouth of the Ruo, Ngoma, Msamu No. 1, Dumba, Chakao, Nyamula, Kalumbe, Kalikovani, and Chezuka, as shown on the attached map<sup>2</sup> of the Ruo and Shire Rivers;

<sup>1</sup> Great Britain, Treaty Series, 1912, No. 10.

<sup>2</sup> Omitted from this SUPPLEMENT.

And to Great Britain:

Malô, Nyantambwe, Nyapembere, Nyafunzi, Msamvu No. 2, Tengana, Panga, Temba, and the two islands of Kutamo, as shown on the attached map of the Ruo and Shire Rivers.

The Governments of Great Britain and Portugal bind themselves to respect the frontier-line laid down by this agreement and to recognize as Portuguese and British territory respectively the islands above indicated, in conformity with the provisions of the treaty of the 11th June, 1891.

Should your Excellency, on behalf of the Government of Portugal, be prepared to accept the agreement in the above terms, I should feel much obliged by your addressing me a note to that effect. The notes thus exchanged would be deemed to record the agreement.

I avail myself, &c.

ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

His Excellency Senhor Augusto de Vasconcellos,

*Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

## 2

*The Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Lisbon*

[Translation]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
LISBON, November 30, 1911.

M. le Ministre,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your Excellency was good enough to address to me on the 6th instant, in continuation of previous correspondence between this Ministry and the Legation under your charge, respecting the Anglo-Portuguese frontier-line on the Ruo and Shire Rivers.

Your Excellency proposes that the question should be settled by an agreement between the Portuguese and British Governments in the following terms: —

The Government of the Portuguese Republic and His Britannic Majesty's Government having resolved to demarcate their territories in East Africa, along the Rivers Ruo and Shire between the points on those rivers mentioned in the treaty of the 11th June, 1891, it has been

decided by common accord between the two governments to accept the line of the thalweg of those rivers as the frontier-line, the islands situated between the left bank of the said rivers and the lines of their thalweg to belong to Portugal, and those situated between those lines of thalweg and the right bank of the said rivers Ruo and Shire to belong to Great Britain, these lines being determined according to the condition of the two rivers in 1908. In this manner the islands belonging to Portugal will be:

Sankalani and the adjacent islands, Masekodoso, which is downstream from the village of Mlolo, those at the mouth of the Ruo, Ngoma, Msamvu No. 1, Dumba, Chakao, Nyamula, Kalumbe, Kalikovani, and Chezuka, as shown on the attached map of the Ruo and Shire Rivers.

And to Great Britain:

The islands of Malo, Nyantambwe, Nyapembere, Nyafunzi, Msamvu No. 2, Tengana, Panga, Temba, and the two islands of Kutamo, as shown on the attached map of the Ruo and Shire Rivers.

The Governments of Portugal and Great Britain bind themselves to respect the frontier-line laid down by this agreement, and to recognize as Portuguese and British territory respectively the islands above indicated, in conformity with the provisions of the treaty of the 11th June, 1891.

I have much pleasure in notifying to your Excellency the acceptance by the Government of the Republic of this agreement, which is thus definitely recorded in the present note and in that from your Excellency under reply.

I avail, &c.

AUGUSTO DE VASCONCELLOS.

Sir Arthur H. Hardinge,  
&c., &c., &c.,